

# HUMAN HEALTH AND NUTRITION AT DAIRY AUSTRALIA

**Melissa Cameron** 

Manager – Human Health and Nutrition Policy mcameron@dairyaustralia.com.au

### AGENDA

- Plant based products
- Australian Dietary Guidelines
- Fractures trial healthy ageing with dairy

0.160°

Nutrient Rich Food Score (NRF-ai) per standard serve (250mL)

0.130

0.121

Dairy

It's time

focusing on

individual

nutrients

to stop

0.034

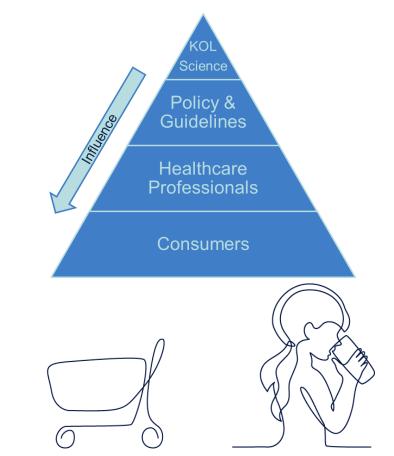


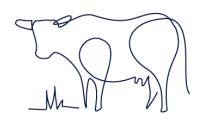




## WHY DOES DA INVEST IN HEALTH AND NUTRITION?

 To ensure that dairy foods continue to be recognised as part of healthy and sustainable dietary patterns by Australian nutrition guidelines, key opinion leaders (KOL) e.g. policy makers and Health Care Professionals (HCPs)

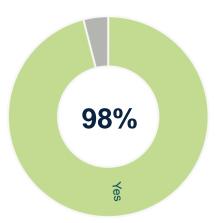






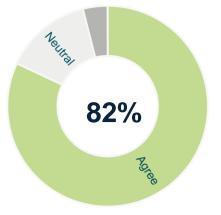
## DAIRY STILL VALUED IN AUSTRALIA





Households regularly purchase milk





It's important to support the Australian dairy industry



See dairy as important in the diet

Impor

82%

Some



## **MILK CONSUMPTION** per capita consumption of liquid milk in kg (2020)





Source : International Dairy Federation National committees of IDF, USDA, Eurostat

IDF - Global expertise in dairy

## CHEESE CONSUMPTION per capita consumption of cheese in kg (2020)





## **MILK PREFERRED OVER ALTERNATIVES**

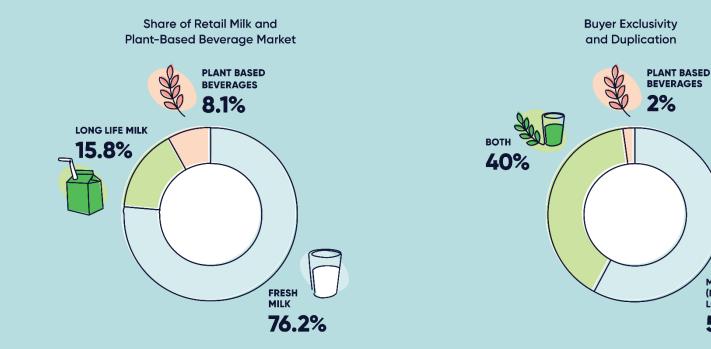


MILK

(FRESH AND

LONG LIFE)

58%



### **CONSUMER PERCEPTIONS**





### **NEW RESEARCH : NUTRIENT RICH FOOD INDEX**



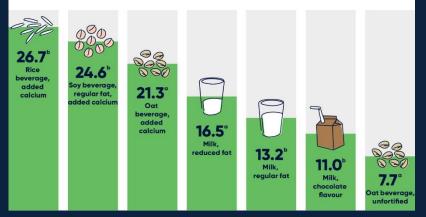


### THE FINDINGS





#### Nutrient Rich Food Score (NRF-ai) per El



#### PLANT BASED is a HOT TOPIC IN AUSTRALIA

Dairy Australia is supporting ADF and ADPF

- Ministerial working group "The Labelling and Marketing of Plantbased Alternatives to Meat and Meat-based and Dairy products" proposed voluntary recommendations
- Senate inquiry open "Definitions of meat and other animal products"

Growth of plant based 'cheese and yoghurt' products in the market place

#### Dietary Guideline review – what will be recognised as:

- healthy versus unhealthy or
- ultra processed
- A review of the evidence and definition of 'plant-based products' including (but not limited to) nutrient quality and quantity, bioavailability and established health outcomes.

## Australian Dairy Industry Council are asking for improved labelling and marketing of plant-based products promoting themselves as alternatives to dairy

- accurately and truthfully describe the product
- do not mislead the consumer over what the product contains (including its nutrition content and health benefits)
- does not denigrates other food groups
- whilst continuing to 'foster industry innovation'









### **Key messages**

Any reference to milk in this document refers to cow's milk.

## 1

Milk is an affordable nutrient powerhouse, naturally containing an array of nutrients in a unique matrix that are well absorbed by the body and deliver positive health benefits. Plant-based beverages contain a different package of vitamins and minerals which are often added in (through fortification) and often in smaller quantities than cow's milk.



The health benefits of dairy foods are well supported by a strong body of scientific evidence, but with only limited evidence to date to demonstrate the limited evidence to demonstrate the health benefits of plant-based beverages.



Plant-based beverages represent a small share of the drinking 'milk' market relative to fresh and longlife cow's milk. In fact, only 2% of households exclusively buy plant-based beverages.

### 5

Surveys show the main reason people claim to purchase plant-based beverages is the belief that they are healthier, indicating a need to educate consumers about the nutrition and health benefits of milk.

### 6

Suggestions to exchange dairy foods with plant-based beverages in a quest for a more sustainable diet has the potential for unintended negative consequences – such as getting less nutrients but at a higher price.

### 7

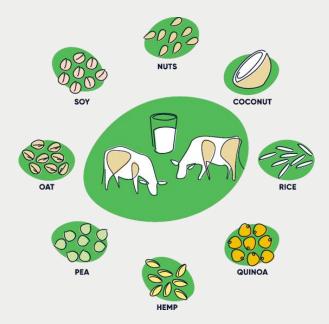
Eating according to the Australian Dietary Guidelines which includes milk, cheese and yoghurt and limits intake of discretionary (or junk) foods will have the most significant impact on improving diet quality and reducing our dietary environmental footprint.



## PLANT BASED PRODUCTS

#### DA is very engaged in this space

- Monitoring the data
- Providing technical advice to ADF and ADPF at recent Ministerial working group and at the current senate inquiry
- Working with international colleagues to protect and monitor the regulatory environment, especially at CODEX
- Communicating the evidence
  - Plant based infographic
  - > Dairy's role in a Plant-based dietary pattern position paper
- Investing in research
- We've asked for a review of the evidence and definition of 'dairy alternatives' in the Australian Dietary Guidelines





### WHAT CAN SADA DO...

- Engage and drive media opportunities
  - To drive consistent messaging
  - Correct misperceptions in the media (dairy versus plant based)
  - Promote the value and benefits of milk, cheese and yoghurt
- Engage SA government staff and policy makers
  - To keep the senate inquiry recommendations on the agenda (caretaker gov)
  - Push for voluntary recommendations in short-term and continue to recommend regulation change (longer term outcome)
- Keep dairy on the agenda
  - Australians value and see dairy as important in their diet
  - Most households (98%) regularly purchase milk



Eating according to the Australian Dietary Guidelines and **limiting intake of discretionary or junk foods** will have the most significant impact on **improving diet quality** and **reducing our dietary environmental footprint**\*

# Hendrie G, Baird D, Ridoutt B, Hadjikakou M, Noakes M. Overconsumption of Energy and Excessive Discretionary Food Intake Inflates Dietary Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Australia. Nutrients. 2016;8(11):690.

